

what is claimed is:

1. An information distribution system comprising:

a storage section that stores a personal profile with which various keywords contained in distribution information pieces provided from a distribution information provider and evaluation values corresponding to the keywords are registered, the evaluation values learned in advance based on a preference of a specific client; and

10 an information filtering unit that rates the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client,

wherein said information filtering unit rates
15 distribution information pieces from a different distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

2. The information distribution system according to claim 1, wherein said information filtering unit
20 comprises a first information filtering section that rates the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client, and a second information filtering section that rates the distribution
25 information pieces from the different distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEY'S EYES ONLY

3. The information distribution system according to
claim 2, wherein said first information filtering section
performs learning processing on the personal profile
based on the distribution information pieces from the
5 distribution information provider, while said second
information filtering section does not perform the
learning processing on the personal profile based on the
distribution information pieces from the different
distribution information provider.

10 4. The information distribution system according to
claim 1, further comprising:

a managing section that manages utilization of the
personal profile for the distribution information pieces
from the different distribution information provider,
15 wherein when said managing section permits the
utilization of the personal profile, the distribution
information pieces from the different distribution
information provider are input to said information
filtering unit.

20 5. The information distribution system according to
claim 1, further comprising:

a clearing unit that withdraws a charge for utilizing
the personal profile from an account designated by the
different distribution information provider when said
25 information filtering unit rates the distribution
information pieces from the different distribution
information provider based on the personal profile to

distribute to the client.

6. An information distribution system comprising:

a distribution information provider that provides distribution information to be distributed to a client;

5 a storage section that stores a personal profile with which various keywords contained in distribution information pieces provided from the distribution information provider and evaluation values corresponding to the keywords are registered, the evaluation values
10 learned in advance based on a preference of the client;
and

15 an information filtering unit that rates the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client,

wherein said information filtering unit rates distribution information pieces from a different distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

20 7. The information distribution system according to claim 6, wherein said information filtering unit comprises a first information filtering section that rates the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal
25 profile to distribute to the client, and a second information filtering section that rates the distribution information pieces from the different distribution

information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

8. The information distribution system according to claim 7, wherein said first information filtering section 5 performs learning processing on the personal profile based on the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider, while said second information filtering section does not perform the learning processing on the personal profile based on the 10 distribution information pieces from the different distribution information provider.

9. The information distribution system according to claim 6, further comprising:

a managing section that manages utilization of the 15 personal profile for the distribution information pieces from the different distribution information provider, wherein when said managing section permits the utilization of the personal profile, the distribution information pieces from the different distribution 20 provider are input to said information filtering unit.

10. The information distribution system according to claim 6, further comprising:

a clearing unit that withdraws a charge for utilizing the personal profile from an account designated by the 25 different distribution information provider when said information filtering unit rates the distribution information pieces from the different distribution

information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

11. An information distribution system comprising:

a storage section that stores a personal profile
5 with which various keywords contained in first distribution information pieces provided from a distribution information provider and evaluation values corresponding to the keywords are registered, the evaluation values learned in advance based on a preference
10 of a client; and

an information filtering unit that rates the first distribution information pieces based on the personal profile to distribute to the client,

wherein said information filtering unit rates
15 second distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

12. The information distribution system according to claim 11, wherein said information filtering unit
20 comprises a first information filtering section that rates the first distribution information pieces based on the personal profile to distribute to the client, and a second information filtering section that rates the second distribution information pieces based on the
25 personal profile to distribute to the client.

13. The information distribution system according to claim 12, wherein said first information filtering

section performs learning processing on the personal profile based on the first distribution information pieces, while said second information filtering section does not perform the learning processing on the personal profile based on the second distribution information pieces.

14. An information distribution system comprising:
a storage section that stores personal profiles for each of a plurality of distribution information providers,
10 each personal profile having registered therewith various keywords contained in distribution information pieces provided from one of said distribution information providers and evaluation values corresponding to the keywords, the evaluation values learned in advance based
15 on a preference of a specific client; and

an information filtering unit that rates the distribution information pieces from either one of the distribution information providers based on the personal profile corresponding to the distribution information provider to distribute to the client,

wherein said information filtering unit rates distribution information pieces from a distribution information provider other than the plurality of the distribution information providers based on either one
25 of the personal profiles stored in said storage section to distribute to the client.

15. The information distribution system according to

claim 14, wherein said information filtering unit selects
the either one of the personal profiles stored in said
storage section, in response to a request from the
distribution information provider other than the
5 plurality of the distribution information providers.

16. An information distribution system comprising:

a storage section that stores personal profiles for
each of a plurality of distribution information providers,
each personal profile having registered therewith
10 various keywords contained in distribution information
pieces provided from one of the distribution information
providers and evaluation values corresponding to the
keywords, the evaluation values learned in advance based
on a preference of a specific client; and

15 an information filtering unit that rates the
distribution information pieces from either one of the
distribution information providers based on the personal
profile corresponding to the distribution information
provider to distribute to the client,

20 wherein said information filtering unit rates the
distribution information pieces from either one of the
plurality of the distribution information providers based
on either one of the personal profiles stored in said
storage section to distribute to the client.

25 17. The information distribution system according to
claim 16, wherein said information filtering unit selects
the either one of the personal profiles stored in said

storage section, in response to a request from the client.

18. An information distribution apparatus comprising:

a storage section that stores a personal profile with which various keywords contained in distribution information pieces provided from a distribution information provider and evaluation values corresponding to the keywords are registered, the evaluation values learned in advance based on a preference of a client;

a first information filtering section that learns the personal profile based on the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider, while rating the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client; and

15 a second information filtering section that rates distribution information pieces from another distribution information provider different from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client.

20 19. An information distribution method comprising the steps of:

generating a personal profile having registered therewith various keywords contained in distribution information pieces provided from a distribution information provider and evaluation values corresponding to the keywords, the evaluation values learned in advance based on a preference of a client; and

rating the distribution information pieces from the distribution information provider based on the personal profile to distribute to the client,

wherein distribution information pieces from
another distribution information provider different from
the distribution information provider are rated based
on the personal profile to distribute to the client.